

one

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THE HOMOSEXUAL VIEWPOINT

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" . . . a mystic bond
of brotherhood
makes all men one."

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EDITOR RICHARD CONGER

ASSOCIATE EDITOR R. H. CROWTHE

MANAGING EDITOR ROBERT GREGORY

STAFF ARTISTS MARK HALDANE & GEORGE MORTENSON

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EDITORIAL

The following essay, although not in the usual form for an Editorial, contains so many points which express ONE's own viewpoint that it has been chosen this month as a Guest Editorial. It has also been felt that in fairness to its author the Editor owed it to him to let readers see that not all of his writing is painfully severe in tone, an opinion some of our correspondents have seemed to hold.

Richard Conger, Editor

Pity the poor heterosexual who sets out in all good conscience to "accept the homosexual." At civil rights meetings he has become fired up with slogans about equality for all citizens. Ministers have told him that as the children of God he must cherish the inherent dignity of all men even, as he now realizes, of homosexuals. So, with head high, eyes clear and shoulders squared, he sallies forth. And what happens?

What happens is that he begins to wonder how to find the homosexuals he is now so anxious to accept. For instance, having told his wife about his project he hears that Mrs. Jones is worrying about her teen-age son because of some rather strange behavior of late.

Next time he goes golfing with Jones, over drinks back at the clubhouse, the subject is delicately broached. "Al, I'm glad you asked me," says Jones. "We've been very worried. Winifred can talk these things with her friends but it has been hard for me. We went to a psychoanalyst about the boy. He told us this was a common stage with adolescents but that one of these days some girl would come along and—whammo! (you know how the kids have picked up such phrases from Batman) the whole mixed-up situation will just fade away and be forgotten.

"This psychoanalyst guy is alright I guess, but you and I know, Al, that they don't all of them outgrow it. Suppose Jerry just kept on and on and turned into one of those 'things' you see downtown every once in a while?"

That left things pretty much up in the air, for however it might look apparently it wasn't homosexuality if the participants were young enough. But at what age do they stop being "young enough," for "real homosexuality" to set in?

So, distasteful necessity seemed to be to get an interview with one of those "things" through some connection (rather indirect, of course) with the entertainment world. The interview turned out to be quite an experience for, instead of the one that had been asked for, two of them arrived.

When asked about being homosexual the first one vehemently denied being so. "It simply happened that I was born into a male body, though all my feelings are feminine and, actually, in most ways my body is really very feminine too. Here, let me show you . . ."

"Isn't she a mess though?" The other one broke in at this point, just as the situation was getting a little out of hand. "If I've told her once, I've told her a hundred times that she's a man. I'm a man. We're all men but just because we happen to like these butch guys we put on a little mascara and do our hair this way so they'll know we're available." The whole interview then went off into a rambling discussion about clothes that didn't seem to get anywhere. The two of them finally left, arm in arm, still arguing.

At the Athletic Club one day while getting a rubdown the conversation somehow got off onto homosexuality. "You'd be surprised how many homosexuals there are," the masseur said. "Right here in this club there's bankers, ministers—I wouldn't dare tell you who, and every one of them married too. Got kids. Ask 'em such a question and they'd sock you one but after a couple of drinks they might admit they're a little bisexual once in a while. More or less for a laugh, of course.

"Hell! A bisexual is just a guy kidding himself that he's not queer. That way he figures he can forgive himself for getting married as a cover up. I've seen lots of 'em. They're all the same."

How to start "accepting the homosexual" if no one would admit he was one? That seemed to be the question. So far, the search had only resulted in adolescents who weren't homosexuals but were just "experimenting," according to the psychoanalyst, and some screwball types who weren't homosexual, so they said, in spite of looking more like women than a good many women do. As for the bisexuals, they were not about to admit that they were homosexual, so that ruled them out and the whole situation was getting pretty absurd until one day, by accident, the subject came up with an older and much admired friend.

After a moment or two of thoughtful silence the older man said, "I'm homosexual. I always have been. There seldom is any good reason for talking much about it, but so long as you have brought it up I will say that I certainly am not ashamed of being what I am. Why should I be?

"My way of looking at life is as natural to me as yours is to you. Acceptance is something I rarely think about. My business life has been fairly successful, as you know, and I find that I'm accepted on that basis almost everywhere. I appreciate your motives, but to be accepted into the kind of 'mamma, pappa and the kiddies life' that may to you mean *acceptance*, I don't want it. If you'll forgive my saying so, from my point of view I can't imagine anything duller.

"I have my own way of living and, so far as I can make out, it is about as rewarding as that of most people I see around town. You ask how many others like myself there may be. Who knows? One thing I can tell you, though, if other homosexuals are going to have what I have achieved they will have to pass through 'a crisis of identity.'

"What might that be, you ask? It means coming to terms with oneself, acknowledging what one really is. How does the individual know for sure? Well, if he's fighting it that is about as sure a sign as there is that he is one.

"When he gets over that hurdle by learning to accept himself he won't have to worry very much over being accepted by others.

"A lot of men (and women too) have to go through the battle alone. I'm thankful that I had a very wonderful lover who steadied me over the

rough spots. No, he is no longer living and of course I miss him. Is that so different from all the older men whose wives are gone, or the wives who have outlived their husbands? Under such circumstances we all learn how to adjust. Isn't that what life is like for all of us?

"Frankly, if you'll again forgive my plain speaking, I don't really care whether or not you accept me as a homosexual. I would hope, however, that knowing what I have just told you, you still can accept me as a person and I would also say that how you react to what I have told you will pretty well spell out just what sort of guy you yourself really are. Shall we shake on that?"

Sidney Rothman, Guest Editor

Two Poems

by Maggie North

Remind me
to brush the thistles
from your hair and
brow —but
not
right now.

Beautiful girl
you don't have to pose
or stand so tall
when you know

I'm watching. you
don't have to wear
the blue suit
or bracelets

Or perfume your wrist.
Just lie by me
and let your hair
fall on my face.—

PETITION TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

Submitted by William Kern, Jr.
who is currently confined in
Jackson (Michigan) Prison, having
been charged with committing
gross indecency and sodomy.

Precisely why persons seek and indulge in homosexual relations seems to be essentially unknown. The layman can ascertain that homosexuality is a basic drive, a personality trait, whether it be congenital or acquired, or possibly both, and that it exists, as a rule, quite beyond the choice of those in whom it resides. The homosexual has been a significant part of human sexual activities ever since the dawn of history, primarily because it is an expression of capacities that are basic in the human animal.

HOW MANY HOMOSEXUALS?

Despite studies and investigations, however scientifically conducted, there is no way of ascertaining how many persons participate in homosexual acts during their lives. It is doubtful whether precise figures, even if known, could or should have any effect upon the criminal laws in this area.

Donald Webster Cory, writing subjectively about homosexuality, refers to rather vaguely constructed incidence

of homosexuality ranging from one to ten percent of the population. Another source estimates that one out of every six American males are homosexual. In the Kinsey Report, study indicated that 37% of the male population has some homosexual experience between adolescence and old age. This is more than one male in every three of the persons that one may meet as he walks along a city street. Among the males that remain single until the age of 35, almost exactly 50% have homosexual experience between adolescence and that age. In every case given an estimate, the results are that homosexuals are thought to exist in large numbers. True, that the percentage arrived at may be only one or two percent of the population, but when this is transferred into numbers of persons, it reaches into the millions. The fact remains that when one speaks of homosexuals, one is speaking of one of America's largest minority groups, second to the Negro.

LOVE BETWEEN HOMOPHILES

However incomprehensible this may be to many heterosexuals, homosexual love is a manifestation of the love need and the sexual drive. In its purest form or sense, it is not like heterosexual love as it may sometimes take the part of a casual dalliance, a wholly optional experience. Those who speak of homosexual love and its drives make it clear that the force of the phenomenon is no less demanding than is heterosexual love. This is obvious upon reflection, when one considers the fact that homosexuality has existed in all areas at all times despite the harsh penalties meted out for homosexual acts. And it certainly is true that the present penalties are harsh enough to be an effective deterrent if, indeed, effective deterrence is possible. Though it cannot be conclusively shown that homosexual activity would not occur were such not criminal, nonetheless, the various theories concerning homosexuality with the high incidence estimates, seem to indicate that very little activity, if any, is deterred by threats of punishment. The very intense nature of such activity implies that the drives must be also intense and even compulsive, thus not deterrable by the remote, though severe, legal threat.

PRISON NOT THE ANSWER

The law cannot perform a rehabilitative function with regard to persons convicted of homosexual offenses and this hardly seems debatable. Assuming *arguendo* the curability of homosexuality, it still remains true that only a small percentage of persons can qualify as curable according to the most optimistic observers, and in order to qualify one must at the very least, have consistent, personalized, psychiatric attention. Our prisons do not have or cannot provide enough of this attention to effect an important number of cures. One need hardly point out that placing one with homosexual drives whether the person is or isn't oriented

bi-sexually, in a society composed solely of persons of similar sex is not likely to lead to heterosexual rehabilitation.

Homosexual activity cannot be prevented by insuring that homosexuals will be incarcerated with persons of the same sex. As a matter of common logic incarceration will promote rather than discourage such conduct; for not only are persons of similar sex forced to live together for extended periods, but they are also denied an opportunity for heterosexual experience. Such punishment has the triple effect of encouraging homosexual activity between prisoners, heightening the probability of increased homosexual activity upon release from confinement, and causing unrest, discipline problems, fights, and even killings between inmates battling over partners, resisting advances, or having lovers' quarrels. Would we attempt to stop fornication by instituting heterosexual incarceration?

Since it appears that homosexuality is universal, widespread, deeply motivated, and essentially not curable under present conditions, and since it also appears that adult, consensual, homosexual acts are severely condemned and harshly punished, and also that the law is incapable of materially stopping their practice, one must inevitably question why our laws provide as they do. What is there about the practice of homosexuality that creates the animosity and occasions these laws? How do homosexual acts threaten society?

THE RIGHTS OF ADULTS

In preface, let it be clear that the homosexual acts to be discussed are those committed by consenting adults, in private. There is no question about the propriety of making criminal any type of sexual act which is imposed by one person upon another through fraud or force, nor is it disputed that sexual acts should, by their nature, be private.

The precise age to be used for adults

is not the point to be considered here, nor is the question of what is the proper crime and punishment to be applied to homosexual acts not in private, or induced by fraud or force.

Persons indulging in homosexual acts, to the degree that this defines their sexual activity, do not reproduce. This is readily conceded. But, it is not a crime to fail to reproduce or utterly eschew attempting to do so. Surely no one would urge that abstinence be deemed a felony. By what reasoning, therefore, can this aspect of homosexuality justify labeling acts thereof as criminal?

It is highly probable that the man to whom homosexual behavior is repugnant would find it no less repugnant because the law permitted it in certain circumstances. The sad fact seems to be the punitive laws in this area, rather than serving a socially utilitarian end, have the opposite effect. The present laws have caused charged men to commit suicide, and have created an opportunity for blackmail by unscrupulous persons, especially male prostitutes. Older homosexual men have seduced boys out of fear of being blackmailed by older male partners, with the ironic result that the law endangers the very young it purports to protect.

There are also harmful social aspects of the present laws. These laws are ineffectual in reducing the incidence of homosexual acts appreciably, and they are enforced inequitably. They are, for example, hardly ever enforced against females committing homosexual acts and they, generally, only affect the poor and desperate who publicly seek mates. This hardly seems fair, that all cases are not even treated equally. (Walter Jenkins is an example)

The purpose of criminal statutes is to set forth with all precision those acts or omissions which the statutes prohibit and to state what the penalty shall be for failure to comply. Where

statutes go beyond this, and contain language which does not serve to define the crime, but rather describe it in moral terms, one may justifiably wonder why.

In 14 States, the offenses contained in the sodomy statutes are referred to as "abominable" and "detestable." Not even the crime of premeditated murder is described by adjectives of censure; neither are other sexual crimes such as fornication, rape, adultery. In fact, no other crimes are so described.

THE STATE'S RIGHTFUL CONCERN

Most impressive is the MODEL PENAL CODE, prepared by the American Law Institute, article 213, which provides that private sexual relations (homosexual or heterosexual) shall be criminal only where children are victimized, coercion is involved, or other serious imposition is practiced. This basic principle has been implemented in one American jurisdiction as of January 1, 1962, namely, Illinois, where a series of criminal law reforms were passed in 1961. One result was the enactment of sections 11-2, and 11-3 of the Criminal Code, which provides that sexually deviate behavior is punishable where force or threat thereof is involved. The acts of consenting adults, committed in private, are no longer criminal, be the deviation homosexual or heterosexual. Subsequent sections cover cases where minors are involved.

The present statutes represent the enforcement of a code of morals for its own sake, a grave misuse of American Criminal Law. Morals and their inculcation are not the province of the state, and consensual acts, of adults, in private are beyond the proper scope of the law.

It is also heartening to see and to note that more and more voices are being raised against the governmental imposition of morals in this area. Although homosexual acts are still sinful

in Catholic theory, there are many Catholic clerics that have taken the position that sin is private, between Man and God, not Man and Government. Catholic clergymen and laymen submitted this report to the Wolfenden Committee:

"It is not the business of the state to intervene in the purely private sphere but, to act solely as the defender of the common good. Morally evil things, so far as they are concerned, that do not affect the common good, should not be the concern of the human legislature."

The British Roman Catholic Advisory Committee on Prostitution and Homosexual offenses and the existing law recommended that . . . "Criminal Law be amended so as to exclude consensual acts done in private by adult males." The enforcement of morals as morals is not properly a government function.

IN CONCLUSION

The homosexual is no different from other human beings other than in private sexual habits. It isn't right for laws to tell persons who they may or may not love. It's not only a constitutional right but a right of life, itself, or of being a human being, to love whom we want to love.

This petition is written in hopes of showing the PRESIDENT OF THE

UNITED STATES, LYNDON B. JOHNSON, the need for Criminal Code Revision in this all-important human area. We "Pray" that he will not turn his back to our "Rights" which, indeed, should be protected by Civil Rights Laws.

THE FOREGOING PETITION HAS BEEN PREPARED BY WILLIAM KERN JR., AT JACKSON PRISON. IT IS REQUESTED THAT PETITIONER IS NOTIFIED AS TO THE RECEIPT OF THIS PETITION, IN TRIPLICATE FORM.

Petitioner:

William Kern Jr. 114477
4000 Cooper St.
Jackson, Michigan

The foregoing petition has been Subscribed and Sworn before me this day,

FEB. 14, 1966
PAUL J. LADOW

NOTARY PUBLIC, Jackson County, Mich. My Commission Expires April 5, 1969.

(The ACLU, of Michigan, under the guidance of Ernest Mazay, held a special meeting Nov. 1965, and concluded that homosexuals do need their rights and an effort is being made to revise Michigan Criminal Statutes pertaining to homosexual offenses.)

SOCIAL SERVICE DIVISION OF ONE, INCORPORATED

Offered to Friends of ONE having questions and difficulties. Referrals may be made, after interview, to sympathetic and understanding physicians, attorneys, clergymen, psychologists and psychiatrists. No Los Angeles area referrals made without a personal interview. Write, or telephone for an appointment to ONE, Incorporated.

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"HOMOSEXUALITY WILL NOT BE TOLERATED . . ."

by Howard Hemsley

Imagine a young boy roaming a well-stocked candy store. He's been told that he can look but not touch, leaving him with two choices: He can obey authority and suffer the frustration of being so near all the goodies

and keeping hands off, or he can sample "just one" (like the advertisement), hoping that mommie won't catch him in the act of plopping a bon-bon into his mouth. As everyone knows, one bon-bon leads to two or

more, and pretty soon our little tyke is so involved with his sampling of bon-bons that he doesn't notice mommie as she approaches. So it is with the homosexual in the service. The gay GI must either accept the frustration of denial, or grab for the goodies, never knowing when he might be caught with chocolate on his face.

You disagree? Don't kid yourself. In spite of the fact that 58% of your comrades in arms will have engaged in homosexual act(s) by the time they are thirty-five, this fact will help you little. The main point is whether or not this 58% engage in sex with their bunk buddies. The answer to this question lies in their attitude toward you, the lavender legionary in their midst.

Officially speaking, you are the cancer that must be rooted out before it spreads and corrupts the entire body. As a basic trainee in the Air Force, I was completely indoctrinated concerning the dangers of homosexuality. I remember sitting on my foot-locker and hearing the gospel according to the Airman's Guide read to me by my barracks sergeant. It was my third day in the service, and I distinctly recall his harsh voice as he intoned from the book: "Homosexuality will not be tolerated in the Air Force and the prompt discharge of true, confirmed, or habitual homosexuals is mandatory."* He continued reading and phrases such as "admit homosexual tendencies, knowingly associate with known homosexuals, bring any information . . . to the attention of his commander," were riveted to my memory.

*The Airman's Guide, Military Publishing Company, 1954.

Reading further, he told us that it was a morally disgusting practice and that we should be constantly on guard for those who told dirty stories, enticed us with French pictures, or attempted to get us drunk in an effort to perpetrate their heinous acts upon our pure

and Christian bodies. Just so he could be sure we understood, he repeated the whole thing in the gutter language of which he was so fond.

Later on, when I had a chance to read the regulations myself, I found out that the policy was to administratively discharge all those who were suspected of homosexual *acts* as undesirables. Those that exhibit *tendencies*, but who can't be proven to have committed any acts, would be discharged with a general discharge. Rarely was anyone court-martialled. I heard of only one case during the six years I spent in Air Force blue, and this involved forcible rape.

Unofficially, homosexuality is ignored by those in command, unless their attention is forcibly drawn to it. There are more than enough problems for them to worry about without including those of faggot infiltration.

On a personal level in the every day dealings with fellow servicemen, the situation gets a bit stickier. Even though this age end educational group has the highest rate of incidence of homosexuality, it has also the highest amount of prejudice against homosexuals. The ground rules are simple; a homosexual is an inferior being who is due only contempt. While it is permissible to use him as a means to an orgasm, the average GI definitely doesn't want to spend his off-duty time with him, and certainly doesn't want him as a roommate. If the homosexual happens to be a fellow GI, the serviceman uses him and then tells his buddies of his discovery, so that they may share in his find. In jig time everyone knows, and then it's only a short nasty step to the undesirable discharge. While this may not happen in 100% of the cases, it happens more often than not.

Because of this prejudice against the homosexual, the vast majority of contacts by servicemen are made with *civilians*, usually in an area free of

military control. By restricting his homosexual sex to weekend passes and leaves, the GI is able to indulge his tastes and retain the respect of his cohorts. In fact, it is the usual thing to return to base, bragging about the number of "queers" that they have encountered. And, of course, the oldest joke on the subject is still making the rounds. I suspect that some impressionable troop at Lackland Air Force Base has just heard it and thinks it new and original. The story goes like this:

When on pass I went to this dance and I picked up a girl. She was really built. So I got her drunk and took her back to the hotel. When I got into bed with her, I found out that the girl was really a guy. I was so mad, I almost didn't screw him. (End of joke)

I submit that if you care for the one-sided sex that the GI regards as his standard fare, you have a much better chance as a civilian. If your GI feels any urge to reciprocate in kind, he'll feel a lot freer about following his urge if he thinks you're a civilian. I know cases where GIs purposely have gone to the city in mufti, because that's the only way in which they'll be able to make other GIs. Those rare instances where two servicemen go with each other, they make sure their partner is from another outfit and that they'll never see each other again. If you plan to join the service so that you may have your own personal sailor, soldier, marine, or airman, you'd save yourself a lot of time and trouble by remaining a civilian.

Still, it is possible to find that special someone to become your friend and confidant, yes, even lover. Who knows, when gazing intently at the young and nubile bodies that surround you at shower call, you just might discover a pair of eyes burning into yours, telegraphing their timeless message. But the discovery of a similarly inclined soul brings with it more prob-

lems than it solves. If you get to care for each other, you'll hate the sham and phoniness with which you'll have to disguise your every action so that none will guess your secret. In the tensely charged barracks atmosphere, where repressed homosexuals are constantly seeing faggots everywhere, any relationship is suspect. The most casual of friends can be subjected to taunts as homosexuals.

Still, it can be done. It is possible to serve your tour of duty and gather rosebuds along the route without anyone being the wiser. All it requires is Spartan self-control, Oriental patience, and Irish luck.

If you are still unconvinced and are determined to wear that uniform, be conscious of the following facts of life:

1. The checking of the "magic square," (admitting homosexual tendencies) does *not* give you license to do as you please while you are in the service. In most cases you will not be accepted, but once in a while someone forgets to check your statement and you're in like Flynn (or is it Wilde?). Subsequent checking of your medical records may uncover this oversight, with the result being your discharge with a general discharge.

2. If you are well known as a homosexual in your neighborhood, that is if you are the talk of the tearoom, stay away from military jobs that require a security clearance. While you probably can pass the National Agency Check of official government, police and school records, that is needed for a Secret clearance, it is extremely doubtful that you'll pass the thorough background investigation needed for a Top Secret clearance. And, once again, the discovery of your gilded past is grounds for discharge.

3. During basic training, resist all; I cannot emphasize this too strongly, RESIST ALL goodies, no matter how tempting. Basic training is the most critical time of your tour of duty.

Those in authority are on the watch for you, homosexual hotheads are on the make for you, and gossiping GIs are looking for the telltale hint on which to pounce. Once out of basic training, the pressure relaxes; but during this initial phase of your military career, it is absolutely necessary to be completely above suspicion.

4. If trouble develops, admit nothing. Even servicemen have rights, the military still has to prove its case. All too many homosexuals fall apart and tell all when given that I-understand-bit by a pro. Whether you get general discharge or an undesirable discharge depends on whether they can prove homosexual tendencies or homosexual

acts. Needless to say, the latter is a lot more difficult to substantiate, *if* you keep your mouth firmly closed. Do not believe you can avoid discharge by making a clean breast of it, all you can do is implicate others. No matter what the personal convictions of the investigating officer, no matter how much he may like you as an individual and value your cooperation, he is required by regulation to recommend your discharge once you have admitted homosexual tendencies or acts.

With most males success in the service depends on hard work and study. For the homosexual, success comes from getting into your closet and securely barring the door.

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CATALYST D

a story by

Dan Georgakas

The three men entered and sat behind the table directly in front of him: Mr. Martin from the Board of Education, Mr. Shaw from the Teachers' Federation, and Mr. Andrews from The Education Association. Martin began, "Mr. Farley, we regret some of the questions we'll be forced to ask, but you can be assured you'll receive every opportunity to clarify your conduct. Do you have any questions before we begin?"

"No."

"Don't be aggressive with them," Randolph Burns had counselled the night before. "Answer quietly and rapidly. It's better to make a mistake in details than to appear as if you're lying."

"Would you tell us how you first became acquainted with the boy?"

"I had seen Dwayne walking through the halls looking rather forlorn and helpless. One day I stopped him and asked if he would drop by my office after school."

"Is this customary, Mr. Farley?"

"That's rather difficult to answer. It's true most teachers wouldn't bother to do this sort of thing, but I've taken a special interest in that direction and I frequently ask students to come for conferences even if I don't see them in classes."

"Boys or girls, Mr. Farley?"

"Retain your poise," Randolph Burns had advised. "When they start the questions about women keep your voice at the same level as before."

"Both."

"Go on, please."

"Dwayne told me that he was living with foster parents and that after his graduation he wasn't sure what he was going to do. He said he wished to go to college but didn't have the money. He expressed feelings of loneliness and I detected a general air of insecurity in his speech."

"Did you report this interview to the boy's counselor?"

"Not at this time."

"What followed?"

I spent the next days checking on the boy's mental rating, his scholastic achievement, and his over all conduct since he's been in our system. I found nothing unusual. He was bright without being brilliant and there was nothing abnormal in his record anywhere. I decided to try to find a scholarship for him."

"Was this the total extent of your contact?"

"There's no need for you to cover the extra help you've been giving these kids. Under any other circumstances you'd be praised for it."

"I invited him to my home."

"Is this customary, Mr. Farley?"

"I'll have to answer as before. I'm involved in several community projects for these boys and girls as Mr. Shaw is well aware. In working out these various activities, I sometimes have children to my home."

"Boys and girls?"

"Yes."

"Accompanied by adults, Mr. Farley?"

"Sometimes and sometimes not."

"What procedure do you follow on these occasions?"

"There's really nothing so formal as a procedure. Usually we just have a dinner that my mother has prepared and talk over any problems the student is involved in. On some occasions the children like to look at my books and sometimes we go downstairs to my recreation room."

"You followed this pattern with Dwayne?"

"I did."

"What's the purpose of this socializing?"

"I try to show them the kind of things they can have. It gives them something to contrast with their own drab environments and while they're relaxing, they feel free to confide their doubts and reveal things that help me in my work with them."

"Did Dwayne respond in this manner?"

"... Yes."

"You hesitate, Mr. Farley."

"Tell them the story exactly as it happened. Your hurt emotions, embarrassment, and surprise are probably the best proof of your innocence."

"Everything you tell us here is confidential, Mr. Farley."

"Well, the boy began by saying he was lonely. He said no one had ever cared about him and that he didn't, couldn't believe I was really interested in him."

"There's nothing especially unusual about that."

"I know."

"You've omitted something then?"

"Yes, I have."

"Well?"

"The boy said that unless I went to bed with him he couldn't trust me."

"Did he use those exact words?"

"He said he couldn't believe I loved him unless I slept with him."

"Had you ever said that you 'loved' him?"

"No, I had only indicated I was interested in his future."

"How did you answer him?"

"I told him that what he had suggested was unthinkable and that he had misunderstood the meaning of my friendship. I told him I was interested in him strictly as a professional person. I said I had no personal feelings for him other than that of a responsible adult to a child needing assistance."

"What was his reaction?"

"He was very angry and quite open about how he expressed it. He said I had tricked him and toyed with his deepest emotions. He left my house in a fury and took a bus home."

"Did you consult with anyone after this?"

"Yes, I went to the boy's counselor and we talked about Dwayne's background and possibilities."

"Did you mention the boy's advances?"

"There's no advantage in indicating your sense of the counselor's inadequacy. It'd only serve to prejudice them against you."

"No, I didn't."

"Why not?"

"I wasn't sure he was the correct person to deal with the problem. I didn't want to see the boy in trouble and I was terribly embarrassed and off balance."

"You hadn't made any overtures yourself?"

"Of course not."

"Did you talk with anyone else, Mr. Farley?"

"Yes, I spoke to the visiting teacher."

"That's the school psychologist, Mr. Randolph Burns?"

"Yes."

"And what did Mr. Burns suggest?"

"We talked rather generally about Dwayne and Dr. Burns guessed that something other than what I had confided was upsetting me. He thought we might consult again later in the week."

"Did you?"

"I planned to but events forced us to meet sooner than I had expected."

"Would you go into those events, please?"

"No explicit details on the calls. They would only be revolted by the relations Dwayne desired. They can't very well pry for details. If they start to, avoid them as best you can until their inhibitions go to work for you."

"Dwayne lost control of himself. He called me every night telling me that the world was deceiving and cruel to sensitive people. He said I lived much too beautifully to be unappreciative of the situation our natures had placed us in. He wanted to come to dinner, to borrow books, to do anything that would bring us together again."

"Didn't this conduct strike you as extreme?"

"It most certainly did. I called Randolph Burns and we got together for a long discussion about Dwayne and myself."

"Stress my professional role. No need to relate the passionate friendship that conversation began."

"Was his advice helpful?"

"I think it would have been if these other things hadn't interfered."

"You mean the parking lot incident with Kevin?"

"Yes."

"Would you go into that?"

"I'm an organizer in our area for the Teen Dem Clubs. We get the youngsters together every few weeks and talk to them about politics. We take trips, hear speakers, and help with mechanical tasks at election time. It's a broad program that stresses learning through doing."

"Kevin is a member of this group?"

"Yes, he's been with us for over a year."

"Dwayne's a member as well?"

"Dwayne had never shown any interest in the organization before this time. The meeting was held in the school auditorium that week and he knew I'd be sure to be there."

"Had Kevin ever made any overtures to you?"

"Kevin was just another student to you. Anything he tells them will appear falsified anyhow. You don't have to tell them what you had suspected."

"No."

"Did you introduce Kevin and Dwayne?"

"No, as a matter of fact, I didn't even know Dwayne was there until the meeting was over. The Teen-Hi girls were serving milk and doughnuts and I saw the boys chatting."

"Did you make anything of this?"

"I had an immediate fear, but Kevin had always struck me as a very typical high school boy. I discarded my idea as an unkind projection based on what I knew about Dwayne."

"What followed?"

"I don't really know. Nothing happened as far as I was concerned except that Dwayne ceased calling me."

"What was your reaction?"

"They can't attack your lack of responsibility. You'd stuck your neck out and gotten clobbered. They'll sympathize with your relief and excuse your cowardice."

"Quite frankly, I was relieved."

"What was Dr. Burns' opinion?"

"He didn't see much that we could do. Dwayne was graduating in a week and there was no agency we could refer him to without badly compromising the child and the school. The boy hadn't committed a crime. It seemed best to let the matter ride. We didn't know what he and Kevin were doing, of course. Actually we hoped that Dwayne had just been talking frivolously before, and had finally come to his senses. We thought he might have become ashamed of his own conduct and decided to quit annoying me."

"Gentlemen, do you have any further questions?"

"Are you married, Mr. Farley?"

"Don't let them get into your personal relations with women. You're not on trial for anything. Your attitudes and experiences are none of their legitimate concern."

"I don't see what that has to do with what we've been brought here to discuss."

"I agree with Mr. Farley," Martin said. "I think he's answered all our questions forthrightly and at least as far as I'm concerned quite satisfactorily. It's obvious that he's a man deeply involved in his profession. He tried to help this boy and received an unanticipated reaction over which he had no responsibility and very little control."

"I agree," Shaw said.

"I'll withdraw my question. Perhaps it was out of order. I hope you'll excuse me, Mr. Farley."

"Certainly. This thing has put a terrible strain on all of us."

"The inquiry is closed," Martin said.

"The pity of it is," Randy said, "That of course there's no way we can protect Dwayne without the others also discovering the truth Dwayne sensed before you knew yourself. Let's get to bed."



tangents

news & views

TANGENTS is one of America's most interesting "open forums" for the reporting of events and the expression of individual viewpoints on the subject of sexual orientation and behavior. But it depends on YOU, the reader, for clippings, reports and letters which can be used for its columns. KEEP THEM COMING to 2256 Venice Boulevard by consulting your local news sources regularly, being sure to include NAME and DATE of publication with each clipping. UNDATED, UNIDENTIFIED CLIPPINGS MUST BE DISCARDED.

GOVERNMENT SNOOPING TO MOUNT?

Reports continue to indicate that, under the guise of "psychological research," the U.S. Government is extending its invasions of privacy from adults to schoolchildren. As might have been expected, these practices were put into effect immediately upon the granting of Federal subsidies to public schools, and they should be a clear warning of Government intentions, as "Big Brother" increases his clutch upon the American citizen. In this instance, school children have been asked "whether they are strongly attracted to members of their own sex, whether they indulge in unusual sexual practices, and what they think of their parents." The tenor of such question does more than merely suggest that the Dept. of H.E.&W. has its own share of

frustrated homosexuals. One Congressman commented that some such tests "may be profoundly disturbing to schoolchildren."

Shock waves of confusion concerning "Big Brother's" intentions for adults also swept the country following the U.S. Supreme Court's smashing refusal on March 21 to set aside the criminal convictions of publishers Ralph Ginzburg and Edward Mishkin, who in lower courts had been convicted on various counts charging obscenity. Both men now face prison sentences of five and three years respectively, also five-figure fines.

At the same time the Court overturned the ban imposed in Massachusetts against selling "Fanny Hill," a work for two centuries widely deemed not fit for public sale by reason of its sheer pornographic contents.

It may be months, or years, before lawyers, publishers and news-dealers arrive at a working understanding of these latest decisions in terms applicable to daily operation of their own affairs under what appear to be some very new ground-rules indeed.

It is quite likely that the hysterical panic indulged in by some commentators, *The New Republic*, for instance, calling Ginzburg's sentence "an outrage" (April 3/66) will gradually subside, Ginzburg's attorneys already having appealed for a rehearing. Principal ray of hope emanates from the fact that, concerning the three cases, eleven of the Supreme Court Justices felt impelled to write separate and dissenting opinions, and some withering sarcasm directed at the legal reasoning behind each of the three widely split decisions.

Past experience suggests that narrow decisions are sometimes reversed the next time around, but how long until that next time? Meanwhile, Ginzburg's five years could have gone by and still others could have been attacked under cover of the March 21st decisions. So, as it ever has been, the law and the courts which administer it tend to be riddles wrapped in Churchill's famous enigma. Were it all so simple, who would need an attorney?

"NORMAL VS. ABNORMAL SEX"

Everyone interested in moral evaluation of sex behavior should read the article under the quoted heading by Dr. W. B. Pomeroy in *SEXOLOGY Magazine* (Feb., 1966) Dr. Pomeroy, renowned former field director at the Kinsey Institute, and co-author of its famed reports, discusses the question in terms of the five frames of reference within

which "normality" is capable of being defined:— the statistical, the zoological, the moral, the legal, and the social. His essential conclusion is that any particular sex act would be considered normal in some of these contexts of value, and abnormal in others, and that "it makes more sense to banish the entire concept from our vocabulary and our thinking."

ADVICE TO TEENAGERS

The Dulaney's, columnists for the *DETROIT FREE PRESS*, early in February authored a 2-part article to teenagers on what they should know about deviates—mainly, on how to react if a friend turns out to be homosexual and they don't feel like going along. Some highlights—Homosexuals are not necessarily: Effeminate, Arty, Bachelors, Child Molesters, Monsters from Mars. But the homosexual "way of life" is: Furtive, Hazardous, Lonely, Assured of No Permanent Relationships, With Risk of Arrest, Blackmail, Violence, and Venereal Infections. Teenagers are advised that, if a homosexual friend makes a pass, "it is wise not to let curiosity lead you to accepting preliminary intimacies. The time to tell a homosexual 'Thanks, but no thanks' is at his first move." But no harm in staying friends on this basis, if you can. (Not bad, really, in *ONE's* opinion. This probably could never have been published in the general press even a year ago.)

THE SEX MOLESTER AGAIN

In a feature article (*TODAY'S HEALTH*, Jan/66) Beatrice Schapper discusses this problem in much detail, and with remarkable balance and fairness—especially towards the homosexual, who very seldom indeed is found in this unsavory

category. She points up the need for helping emotionally disturbed youngsters during the critical adolescent years, and also levels a blast of criticism at our medieval sex laws. "Society fails to employ what's known," she writes, "to differentiate our treatment of those who haven't and aren't going to harm anybody, like some practicing homosexuals, from those who are habitual minor offenders, and these in turn, from disturbed, psychotic, or psychopathic characters. For the first two classes, we need to discover the best and quickest ways to integrate them successfully into the community as good citizens, instead of having to endure tragic, wasted lives. Thereby, the public would be saved the costs of repeated apprehension, criminal investigation, and unsuitable incarceration." In noting the inequities in the enforcement of certain sex laws, she quotes Dr. Stephen C. Mason, of the Michigan State Medical Society. Dr. Mason describes two neighboring communities near Ann Arbor. "In one," he says, "the judge is biased, rigid, unapproachable, and very punitive in dealing with these cases. The prosecutor is weak and afraid to stand up to the judge, who periodically initiates campaigns to 'clear out the homosexuals.'" In the other, the personality problem is studied, with psychiatric help, and the prosecutor handles each case on its merits. "Many of these cases," Dr. Mason goes on to say, "and especially first offenders, never get into court, and the emphasis is always kept on the rehabilitation of the individual, rather than his punishment."

NOW WHO'S SEDUCING WHOM?

According to the S.F. CHRONICLE for 2/25, San Francisco's police de-

partment has admitted defeat in the task of protecting both adult and juvenile visitors to the "Tenderloin" district from the advances of predatory teenagers out to "sell their bodies." Current conditions there were originally reported by investigators for the Glide Foundation, who "estimated that about 300 males from 12 to 25 years of age engage in prostitution in the area," and that "females as young as 14 also solicit sex from women as well as men." In general, homosexual behavior is described as "most dominant," with the clientele for the pros (and probably some of the pros themselves) being partly drawn from "thousands of very young persons who throng into the area each weekend." Illicit drug traffic is reported as being closely involved with this appalling situation, with "ten chemicals," including the hallucinogen, "LSD", in ready supply.

In contrast with police vice-squad tactics, Glide Foundation workers use an empathetic approach to these footloose and unfortunate young persons, with the goal of improving their self-image, and of encouraging them to find some worth-while identity in the adult community. (See material on San Francisco's Council on Religion and the Homosexual, ONE Magazine, Oct., '65)

In relation to S.F.'s immediate problem, both Catholic and Protestant clergy are said to be working toward the establishment of an antipoverty district which would include the Tenderloin. Meanwhile, mature examples of adult leadership, dignity, and Christian charity continue to be the primary need, and Bay Area religious groups deserve all possible support and encouragement in the work which they have already begun so well.

THE MIAMI MIASMA

Officialdom around Miami have been raising much hullabaloo of late about the chartering of the Mattachine Society in Florida a few months ago. Under shivering headlines ("PRO-PERVERT CHARTER ALARMS LAW OFFICIALS") an issue of the CORAL GABLES TIMES (Nov. 1965) cited dire prophesies from numerous State officials as to the hordes of homosexuals which might be expected to invade Florida, should the Mattachine's law-reform programme become effective there. (This has never happened in Illinois, as Florida Mattachine continues to point out.) The police department, evidently seeing a reflection of its own methods, fear the "intimidation" which will be exerted if a "nationwide federation of queers" really makes a serious effort to accomplish its aims. Some of these lily-white saints in law enforcement have registered apparent astonishment that homosexuals are now "demanding equal rights. They're getting on the civil rights bandwagon." (ONE wonders where such police have been for the past fifteen years, during which homophile organizations have been doing just that—beginning their efforts, in fact, long before the present civil rights movement was heard of.) It was even commented, by Det. John Sorensen, of the Sheriff's juvenile squad, that "if they are successful, then there will be no obstacles to homosexuals becoming police officers." (Well really, dolls!) Strange things seem to be going on in Florida today, not only around Miami, but in Tallahassee, where for some months now "carefully screened" Florida State University male students have been hired for "part-time work" as decoys in making homosexual arrests. According to recent reports,

both F.S.U. and State officials have been making strenuous protests against this practice.

Longtime readers of ONE Magazine will recall that "the Miami situation" as long ago as November, 1954, was given featured treatment, and frequently since then.

ANTICS IN ATLANTA

As a further example of the progressive South, Atlanta is said (N.Y. TIMES 11/29) to be dusting off ancient city ordinances to "fight rise in prostitution." Sample ordinance is one of 1910 vintage which makes it a misdemeanor for a "woman of notorious character" to walk or ride upon the "public thoroughfares of this city." Under this astounding ordinance, a woman who had been convicted of prostitution 3 years ago was recently arrested merely for appearing in a public dining place with a woman companion. A similar ordinance "makes it a misdemeanor for a woman to wave at or beckon to men within two years after receiving a conviction for prostitution." It is said that "hundreds and hundreds" of suspected prostitutes have been arrested under this "waving" ordinance. And this is not all from Atlanta. Other clippings suggest that either its police or its residents-at-large are becoming sex-obsessed, and ONE does not believe that the latter have changed much. From the 1/10 ATLANTA CONSTITUTION comes a report authored by Dick Hebert concerning ACLU protests, on behalf of the homosexual community, against police harassment. Earlier in January, Hebert also authored a series of articles on "Atlanta's Lonely 'Gay' World," which is one of the most thorough and objective newspaper coverages that has

come to ONE's attention thus far. It describes not only local social aspects, but the national activities of homophile organizations, together with lengthy psychiatric opinions ("Psychiatrists say homosexuals are not necessarily criminals . . . nor necessarily mentally disturbed. Those who try hardest to expose homosexuals often are themselves latently homosexual, pointing the finger at others to appease their own guilty consciences."). It describes also local police practices against homosexuals, and it was this aspect of Hebert's expose which apparently resulted in the later ACLU action. These police practices of course include raids on "gay" meeting places, but also arrests for loitering and loafing, and plainclothes enticements. A detective said that "as soon as a homosexual touches an officer he is booked for assault and battery." Pointing out that the only Georgia law pertaining to homosexuals forbids the act of sodomy, the ACLU stated:- "If the police use illegal pretexts for the arrest of homosexuals, then they are violating Constitutional rights, and we will do everything in our power to stop these violations."

Meanwhile, the CONSTITUTION for Sunday, 1/9, printed a report by Walker Lundy on problems of homosexuality at Reidsville State Prison, in which Warden Dutton is said to have admitted: "We have failed in Georgia in our approach to sex offenders." He is referring to 425 of his 2900-inmate prison, 250 of whom are there for homosexual offenses. The same admission would have to be made by practically every penal institution in the country, the failures in N.Y. State being of monumental (but let us hope, not typical) propor-

tions, as the following report will indicate:

N.Y.'s DAY-TO-LIFERS

New York's NEWSDAY, for 11/30/65, in an article by Ray Larsen, describes sharp criticism by State Courts of that State's sex offender care. State legislation enacted in 1950 "allows judges in the State's criminal courts to sentence convicted sex offenders to indeterminate terms of imprisonment, from one day to life." But then, it is supposedly the immediate responsibility of psychiatric omniscience to study and treat the helpless "patient," and to determine if and when he can be returned to society. But such day-to-lifers, it is reported, can spend up to **nine years** behind bars without **any** psychiatric attention, and then find themselves re-sentenced to another indefinite term. In New York, apparently, indeterminate sentences may be carried into an unbelievable travesty on justice, which the Courts have said "may well be a violation of the U.S. and State Constitutions' prohibitions against cruel and unusual punishment." This, however, does not seem to really bother State officials. R. G. Oswald, chairman of the Board of Parole which must issue the actual order for release of a day-to-lifer, merely agrees that the State lacks sufficient psychiatric personnel to implement the intended system," meanwhile unfortunate prisoners may spend years behind prison walls, some virtually neglected according to report, and with no means of recourse.

THE UTTERLY-UTTER DEPT.

In an undated, unidentified clipping, San Franciscan H. Wm. Way comments on "The Strange City"

of S.F. and the foibles of its citizens. "What might appear irrational, extravagant, or spectacular to others is the norm here. Remember the ancient parable about the man who asked another man why his city was called 'The Strange City.' The reply was, 'I do not know, but I'll ask my wife—perhaps he knows.'" (Hmmm . . . sounds more like Los Angeles.)

A similar clipping describes an incident alleged to have occurred in a waiting-line of visitors to the U.S. Senate:-

ELDERLY GENT (whispering to visitor behind) "Is that character in front with the poodle cut and jeans a boy or a girl?"

OTHER VISITOR (angrily) "It's a girl and she's my daughter!!"

E.G. "Forgive me, sir, I never dreamed you were her father."

O.V. (hiking blue Levi's) "I'm not! I'm her mother."

And did you hear the one about the gay young thing, frugging away with another one at a discotheque, who was overheard remarking:- "It might not be much of a step, dearie, but it was good enough to keep me out of the Navy!"

Then there was the item from N.Y.'s *NEWSDAY* for 1/10, on the 9 members of "The Outlaws," one of Ye Olde Cycle Clubs, who tramped into traffic court "attired in old Wehrmacht helmets, gold earrings and coonskin caps, to support a fellow member who had been arrested the night before. Police also arrested 6 of the 9. Their belts, fashioned from motorcycle chains, could be used as clubs, police said. And two kissed while awaiting their turn in court. They explained, 'We kiss to shake people up!' But the police (shaken up??) decided it was disorderly conduct."

EDWARD TO EDNA; EDWIN TO YVONNE

Both of these cases, one of transvestism and the other of transsexualism, were reported in recent issues of the *S.F. CHRONICLE*. The first concerns now-deceased Edward Barge, father and grandfather who for the last twenty years of his life lived as matronly, well-to-do Edna Barge in a California city. The "deception" was discovered by examining physicians after her death in an auto accident. Miss Barge was said to "have lived quietly as a respected member of the community," and to have "had everyone completely fooled." The second describes a 34-yr.-old South African woman who not long ago broke the world gliding-speed record, and who, previous to 1961, was Edwin Leeman, nicknamed "Cat of Nine Lives Pilot" after a number of miraculous escapes from death in airplane crashes. Yvonne recently told the Johannesburg press that in 1961 she underwent an extensive series of operations after years of "fighting a hopeless battle against my femininity."

SHOULD LESBIANS MARRY?

(From a girl to Joseph G. Molner, M.D., reported in *FT. WAYNE, Ind., JOURNAL-GAZETTE*, 2/10) "Dear Dr. Molner: I am 18 and baby-sit for a couple. The man's wife is 30-some years old. She said she was in love with me and made advances that I don't think are quite proper but I don't really know what she means." Dr. Molner's comment: "Obviously the woman is abnormal, meaning that she is attracted to her own sex instead of the opposite. Without going into a long discussion about the problem, all I can tell you is to have nothing to do with her. Get a job with someone else."



READERS on *Writers*

Movements, like individuals, can have their maturity measured by the nature of their questions and accusations. Through recent essays in homophile magazines (I refer particularly to Robert Gregory's ONE editorial of February, 1966), I have become encouraged that the homophile movement is beginning to grow out of its infancy and childhood and into adolescence.

The steps to maturity, as I see them, are:

1. Infancy, during which the movement or individual is somewhat not aware of itself as a whole, and can be said to be nonexistent. The abstract thinking that is necessary for an infant to realize that he is as much an existing reality as are the things he wants is not in his possession. Similarly, one idea or desire, isolated from all knowledge of others of the same nature, will probably not be recognized and, if it is, will not be propagated. This is the influence that writing and the electronic mass-communications systems have had on our lives and our society: we can know the ideas of others, select people without meeting them personally. It is interesting to note, though it is not in keeping with the purpose of the article, that this select communication is so great a part of making ours a turbulent society. By providing communication it insures quick maturity of a movement and by providing selectivity, it insures a lack of understanding between members of different movements. At any rate, infancy provides no accusations or questions. Only basic demands.

2. Childhood is a time when the individual or movement is painfully aware of its wants and needs and blind to those of others, and, often, blind to the facts of reality. By slow realization of what it can possess and how it can acquire it, the being learns respect and justice. Childhood is a time of finding one's values and developing the need for the liberty needed to achieve them. Childhood demands attention, many times without regard as to how it is achieved, and accuses others for its shortcomings.

3. Adolescence. During adolescence the being becomes absorbed by self-doubt and need of understanding. This is the time during which the individual or movement begins to consider issues from both sides, adjusting themselves to the facts rather than the facts to their wants. Unfortunately, many people and movements today never have to tackle adolescence as the affluent society fills so well their needs while children. Adolescence asks its own worth and that of its goals.

4. Maturity is the time when one learns to cope with the world as it is, serving his own interests while not interfering with others' rights to serve their interests. Maturity asks nothing that it doesn't deserve and accuses nothing for its failures. It accepts the responsibility of its successes and its failures.

5. Old age depends upon one's success in the other steps of maturity. To those persons and movements that realize maturity, as most do, old age is a time of healthy remembrance and continued productivity, inspired by the

wisdom of knowing the harmony of the many aspects of life. Old age after successful living makes no accusations and is content not to know answers it can not find.

If indications prove right, the homophile movement has been fortunate enough to reach adolescence before its childhood dreams were all realized. Unless it is the person or cause that stopped short of its childhood dreams because it was afraid to accept their responsibility, there is nothing sadder than a movement or individual whose dreams are realized before maturity has been reached. These are the causes that find the medicine worse than the illness. Communism is perhaps the best example of this unfortunate good luck.

Meanwhile, the homophile movement, when just beginning to realize its goals of liberty and sympathetic understanding, is beginning to accept the challenge of responsibility by asking itself if it is really ready for its goals to be reached. And it has bravely answered that it is not. By recognizing and appreciating the efforts of society

and thus ceasing to blame its failures on others, the homophile movement has opened the way to serious self-appraisal. Questions of morality, cause, and values are what are now calling to be answered.

But more is needed than for a few just leaders to recognize this need if this movement is to be respected by the heterosexual majority. Unfortunately, self-accusation does not sell magazines to the majority like exposing the bad points of others does, but an honest effort must be made. To continue attacking rather than attempting to understand the differences between two different ideas will be making the same mistake that too many young negroes are making today. With the same result: affirmation of bigot's hatred.

Objective rationality is never as easy, or as popular, as emotional stimulation; but it is the only way men, with their many different interests, can live amongst each other with productive cooperation.

Dean Worbois

It is late in New York

Juke-box tunes
that chatter the mysteries of life
and the secret solutions
known only to the rhythm guitarist
and the falsettoed idol

It is late in New York
and three minutes of raucous advice
from the olympic world of youth
is as cathartic as all of Sophocles' drama

Loneliness begs for noise
and the crowd
is always
lonely

Donald C. Mitchell

BOOKS

Notices and reviews of books, articles, plays and poetry dealing with homosexuality and the sex variant. Readers are invited to send in reviews or printed matter for review.



THE VELOCIPED HANDICAP, by Louise W. King, Doubleday & Co., New York: 1965, 240 pp.

The latest work of Louise King will be welcomed by fans who remember her contributions to ONE and her four stories in the popular Doubleday book, *The Day We Were Mostly Butterflies*.

Well crafted, fast-paced and refreshingly funny, *The Velocipede Handicap* throws light and lightness into the gay world of Miss Lillian Richardson and her Miss Moppet.

Half the fun is viewing the gals through the eyes of their loving but not always sympathetic housemate, Mr. Maurice Soule Calhoun.

Mr. Calhoun is out to decorate a house. Miss Lillian is out to change the economy of the world and the maze-like mind of her babyish and lovable Miss Moppet. And Miss Moppet, she's just way out.

With cunning casualness and flagrant stereotypes, Louise King provides "light" reading and provokes laughter and thought about some very heterospecial and homospecial assumptions.

Mary-Faith Albert

THE LAUGHTER OF APHRODITE by Peter Green, Doubleday & Co., Garden City, N. Y., 1966.

Peter Green has written a well-researched biography of the legendary and controversial poetess Sappho of ancient Greece. Using the fragments

of poems left by the poetess, and research in the history of ancient civilizations, the author has presented a poetic and scholarly account of Sappho's life. A major attribute of the book is the detailed descriptions of the Island of Lesbos, the way of life of the islanders, and historical characters who knew Sappho. Readers of ONE may well quarrel with Mr. Green's reliance upon popular psychological assumptions regarding the lesbian personality traits of Sappho.

M. F. A.

THE HUMAN VOICE, quarterly magazine, edited by D. V. Smith and J. H. Fredrick; Olivant Press, Drawer 1409, Homestead, Florida 33030; \$2 a year.

Says Walter Lowenfels in *The Human Voice*, "Everything to do with the poem is part of the poem—typing, printing, publishing..." And Charles Lamb remarked upon the difficulty of comprehending and appreciating a poem until it has been composed in type and printed. An example is afforded in *The Human Voice*, where a poem's effect is modified by other poems' juxtaposition.

How can a reader make due response when one poem follows on the heels of another? How can the editor of a book of poems or of a magazine of poetry serve his function—and balance his budget? Too often he can't, he fails. It is a pity, for poetry is worth preservation, cultivation.

A short poem serves most commonly as a tailpiece (no pun intended). Published in a book it had better be preceded by a prose composition, which will serve as a peroration. A poem expresses emotion, excitement; and before we get excited we need a dispassionate exposition of the subject we're to get excited about.

A poem is an editorial, a bit of philosophizing. An editorial paragraph is to be understood by a person who has read yesterday's newspaper and so knows what the editorial is about. An anthology of editorials requires a running recital of the news in the context of which each editorial was written.

In practical publishing, an editor finds himself with a remnant of a column open, and he casts about for something to eke out. At hand is a poem of a length suitable, there is no compelling reason why he should not print it, so in it goes. If he happens to have two poems of the same length he can prefer one to the other.

Is this a reckless way of choosing literary material? No. Merit is important in anything that is to be published, but is secondary to availability. No editor can publish a thing that he doesn't have. Many a poem gets published because it was of a convenient length and was in the editor's hand when a column wanted splicing out.

Your poem's prosperity is not defeated by publication as a column justifier. Consider the reader: he has read a story or a non-fiction piece and has assimilated a substantial message — is mentally replete, satisfied. He is naturally ready for something more but is not now hospitable to anything formidable. His mind is idling or running only at cruising speed. He'll take in the minor work of a poet—a minor work as its length suggests.

A major poem would run to greater length, so it would not be here.

Manuel Boyfrank

TENNESSEE WILLIAMS, by Gerald Weales, No. 53 in the Pamphlets on American Writers, The University of Minnesota Press, Minneapolis 55455, 65 cents.

Thomas Lanier Williams, known as Tennessee, is a descendant of John Sevier (pronounced severe), 1745-1815, who did atrocities against my great great grandparents and other Indians; but I shall not hold it against the playwright.

Gerald Weales explains Williams thoroughly and sympathetically. An understanding of the playwright's aims helps you appreciate a play and fix the play's value as poetry. A good poem, however, can be read and reread, and a good play seen with pleasure more than once. Weales does not say whether a Tennessee Williams play will stand repeated attendance.

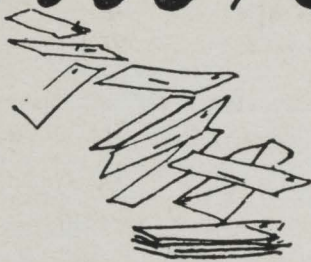
Does it take a cheeky critic to say that a two-time winner of the Pulitzer prize is not necessarily a good writer? Observe what such a prize amounts to, \$500, and how narrow is the field. I was eleven when Pulitzer died and I recall the peculiar rules he laid down.

Although the prizes for a novel, a history, a biography or a book of verse had only about three stipulations apiece, that for a play runs to six or seven, thus: "(1) original (2) American play, (3) performed in New York, which shall (4) best represent the (5) educational value and (6) power of the stage, (7) dealing preferably with American life."

So no play that has merely been published is considered nor is one that has been staged elsewhere than in New York. The many British plays that contribute so richly to the American theater are ignored. When competition is thus cut away there is many a Broadway season when a play could fit the prize recipe and still be an authentic estinguero.

M. B.

Letters



The views expressed here are those of the writers. ONE's readers cover a wide range of geographical, economic, age, and educational status. This department aims to express this diversity.

Originals of these letters in ONE's possession; names of small towns are usually deleted.

ONE'S OUTREACH PROGRAM

Dear Friends:

I just read the report on ONE's 1965 Trip to Europe, and now I see the planned route for 1966. May I suggest that you consider, for the following years, a visit to Stuttgart, Frankfurt, Hamburg, and Berlin too?

There are important homophile publications or organizations at or near Stuttgart, Frankfurt, and Hamburg. And you should see Berlin, Germany's capital, with the highest number of homosexual clubs and restaurants, and a former big homosexual movement.

If I succeed in my meeting with all homophile publishers and group leaders of Europe at Amsterdam, May 13-15, I should like to have your representative addressing the meeting by a speech on "How we see it; how we do it; why should homosexuals publish magazines, and for whom?" Do you like this idea? Perhaps you could speak to us on this subject.

Jack Argo
Hamburg, Germany

Dear Chuck Thompson:

May this brief letter find you in good health and fortune. One sometimes wonders where you muster such drive and vivacity. Could it be attributed to that noble aim of making us all "one"? I can't help but think that this is not only the answer, but a pressing reminder of our obligation to the very same cause. May we in time be imbued with the same desire to help "one" . . . another!

Since our first and last meeting, I have carried the "word" to friends near and far, and hope that at our next meeting in Detroit a very interested and sincere group will assemble before you to give evidence of their intense support. Although, I could add that many heard of "ONE" before, but thought it to be the opposite of what it really is. I'm almost positive that, if allowed to, our branch would bear a successful harvest of prominent persons from all walks

of life to form a unified front to repel the injustice and dispel the fears of the great society we live within.

In closing, I'll make a request for more information on "ONE". We should have a "bible" of our own, explaining the goals and means by which we shall attain these goals, as individuals, but united as one. Something has to be done, and done very quickly. The time and events concerning our position have come to the forefront of society, and no longer is this such a mystery. Give us a reason . . . give us a cause, and we shall unite under the banner of "ONE".

Mr. T.
Detroit, Michigan

KANSAS MEETING AGAIN

Dear Mr. Legg:

Sorry not to have had the chance to meet you in Kansas City, but was quite impressed with your excellent representative, Chuck Thompson, who struck me as a true diplomat.

The Kansas City meeting had both good and bad points. There seemed to be a dividing line between people interested in ideology and those interested in methodology. The first day was spent on the first group's desires for talks on ideology, and led to sometimes fiery debates. The second day was concentrated more on methods—and many seemed to be happier to be out of the ideological fire.

I, personally, was well enough pleased with both days—although I found one thing about many of those in attendance particularly distressing. Many refused to even admit that a rational thread of thought is necessary to counter the ruthless, unscrupulous, unrelenting, vicious intellectual adversaries who are going to array themselves against us.

Thanks for printing my letter about Florida. Also, I was impressed with the fact that you saw fit to print Mr. Kameny's letter on picketing, even though his views conflict with yours.

Enclosed is the new Constitution of our Washington Area Council on Religion and the Homosexual. I am Secretary of the Washington (D.C.) Area Council, and the Chairman of our Committee on Religious Concerns. I am very much interested in the activities of your Los Angeles Committee on Religion and the Homophile. Please do keep in touch.

**Warren D. Adkins, Vice President
Mattachine Society
Washington, D.C.**

BRICKBATS & BOUQUETS

Dear Sir:

In comment on your letter (LETTERS, Jan., '66, Mr. D., Denver), I do not, in any measure, wish to imply that there is a moral justification to the stand that the Catholic Church maintains with regard to homosexuality. Further, I am in no way a defender of the faith.

However, to accept some spokesmen's recent diatribes as representing the Church's total point of view is to close one's eyes to the facts. Unfortunately, many spokesmen for the Church remain silent. This seems to be one of the great afflictions of the Church—remaining silent.

After a Catholic's recent speech here in New York against sex-law-reforms, many prominent Catholics here banded together to support the new laws—granted that they were primarily concerned with laws on divorce. It is my hope that this is a sign that Catholics are beginning to think for themselves.

Have you seen the recent book on "Psychiatry & Catholicism" printed for the American University at Washington, D.C.? It contains a chapter on homosexuality which is most comprehensive.

**Mr. E.
Elmhurst, New York**

Dear Editors:

Will you pass on to Robert Gregory my hearty endorsement of his February editorial advocating "responsibility" among homophiles? That one hit the nail dead center! I hope to write a personal expression of appreciation to Mr. Gregory, but if I should somehow forget to, your passing on my enthusiasm will at least acquaint him with my support. Thanks.

**Mr. P.
Arlington, Virginia**

Dear Friends:

I have noted with great interest how ONE's Friends have answered the appeal for books to replenish the Library after the theft of a year ago. I would judge that you must by now have several thousand new books on your shelves. Please accept the complete set of ENCLYCOPAEDIA BRITANNICA which I am shipping to you. I hope the fine response continues, as I am certain we all have

many volumes we can spare for such a worthy project.

**Mr. C.
Detroit, Michigan**

Dear Mr. Conger:

Have the newspapers in your section carried the wire story of the action by the House of Commons in London on the subject of homosexuality? At last, the House, along with the Lords, has acted responsibly and faced up to the realities of life. Would that the legal system in this country could do likewise!! Enclosed is another contribution for ONE, in its invaluable work on behalf of all homosexuals.

**Mr. L.
Atlanta, Georgia**

Gentlemen:

Having heard considerable comment regarding the publication, ONE, may I say that I am indeed very much interested in it. In fact, I would very much like to have sample copies of several recent issues of ONE. I have many questions to ask about it, but I trust that they will all be answered in due time, when I have the opportunity to examine the publication itself.

It has bothered me greatly that there has been so much unfavorable publicity regarding homosexuality. I read with disgust the stories of persecution appearing in Life magazine recently. The Dayton Journal Herald recently decried this "social problem, or blight." I am appalled. Men have been persecuted for everything from religious beliefs to the color of their hair. While I acknowledge that the homosexual is capable of immoral acts (indeed, who among us mortal sinners is not?), so is his heterosexual neighbor. I believe in judging a man on his own personal characteristics and conduct, and not simply on his individual preferences.

I feel very strongly that the homosexual has long borne the brunt of ridicule and intolerance. The American Negro is fast being liberated, as well he should be—now it is time for the homosexual to be allowed to live in peace. He has this inalienable right as an American citizen. In the name of God, we all deserve life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. I personally consider friendship itself much more important than the sex of one's companions. Good luck!

**David C. Schnier
Dayton, Ohio**

THE HOMOPHILE IN SOCIETY

Sirs:

There are far too many who know little or nothing about organizations with which they should identify themselves and support, or who are indifferent, through ignorance, about the efforts being made for recognition of legal and social rights, legislation being developed and enacted, the literature pub-

lished for enlightenment as well as entertainment, the history of homosexuals in all areas of science, the arts, literature, music, government, entertainment, etc. They are unaware of the progress being made toward full citizenship, and participation. Perhaps you can help to broaden one fellow's horizons, by entering the gift subscription enclosed herein.

Though there are other publications, and other organizations one could choose from, I consider yours the most dedicated, intelligent, and socially conscious. I hope others will join you in a concerted effort in the years ahead.

Mr. V.
Newark, New Jersey

Dear Mr. Conger:

This clipping on extortion rings victimizing homosexuals perhaps indicates, in some respects, that the tide is turning in favor of justice for the homosexual in modern society. Do you think the legal powers-that-be, esteemed jurists, et al, will NOW realize that the archaic laws making homosexual acts between consenting adults a crime just provide criminal racketeers with more fodder?

Let's work, lobby, or what have you, for the REMOVAL of the inequitable, ridiculous laws now on the statute books—if it means taking the fight straight to the Supreme Court!

Mr. L.
Atlanta, Georgia

Sirs:

My monthly membership payment is enclosed. I look forward to your terse periodical, and sure liked the picture and story, "How Had It Happened, Exactly?" (ONE Magazine, Feb. '66)

A homosexual in a large metropolitan area has it tough, I know, but God pity and have mercy on the homosexual in smaller towns, where distance makes it impossible to attend your seminars, symposiums, lectures and classes.

The suicide reported in the enclosed clipping is just another example of the results of man's inhumanity to man. Society must always have a whipping-boy. In the years past, it has been the Jews, then the Catholics, then the Negroes,—but these minorities have largely thrown off the yoke of hatred, bigotry, and discrimination; now the homosexual is the scapegoat for the rage and insanity of the ignorant.

When will the world ever get over the antiquated idea that a human male is nothing but "ein kindermacher?" May the day break, and the shadows flee away!

Mr. C.
....., California

Dear ONE:

You should be informed of some strange events which have been happening in Dallas

Public Schools. It seems that a police officer is being sent around to Dallas Junior High Schools, holding discussions on homosexuality. I do not know the nature of these discussions, nor the idea behind them. I'm sure Dallas law enforcement officers are becoming alarmed at the large number of homosexuals in Dallas, and have taken this action in hopes of nipping it in the bud. If this is the philosophy, it is my opinion that such actions will do little good. I mean, if you're gay, you're gay.

Mr. S.
Fort Worth, Texas

Dear Sirs:

Although I do not know if your excellent publication is still in existence, I am writing just the same. You see, for the past year, I've been a patient in a large state mental hospital, where I've been kept completely isolated from the publishing world. I certainly hope you are still publishing, as I would like to renew my subscription.

In the hospital I was in, the doctors looked upon homosexuality as a great crime, and would throw us in seclusion rooms even for getting an erection in the shower room. God help the unfortunate homosexual actually caught in the act! And the irony of it all is that a number of the doctors were gay themselves, and they treated us even worse than the straight ones did.

You should really make a study of homosexuality in mental hospitals, since that's where most of us eventually end up, once in trouble with the law, even if it's only for 90 days observation. The viscid mentality of psychiatrists flows slowly; their torpid minds, supposedly sharp, are saturated with such a diabolic solution of prejudices . . . believe me, man, it's a bad scene all over.

Philadelphia is up so tight that it's almost impossible to enjoy oneself. The police are arresting everyone from college students smoking pot, to queens in semi-drag (not even with eye-shadow). I've got to hit the coast, man, or really go crazy. I understand that things are becoming more and more tolerant out there all the time. I hope this is so, because if it is, California, here I come!

Mr. M.
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Dear Sir:

I have finally gotten around to answering your request in the October Magazine. Though I am unfortunately not able to assist financially in any project, that will not prohibit me from at least giving some of my time and energy—especially toward promoting a greater understanding of homosexuals by the heterosexual world. If I can be of help in some way, please keep me in mind. "They also serve, who only sit and work!"

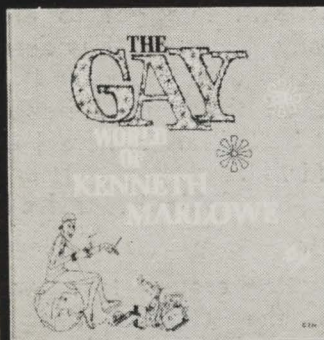
Mr. V.
New York City, New York



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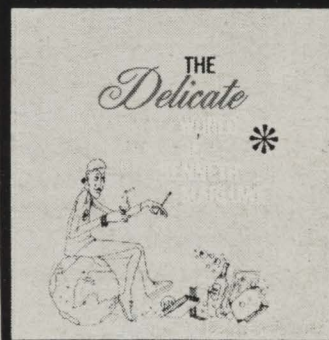
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